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AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

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JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Youth leader, peace builder

Passion for community service makes teen an inspiring 'ambassador' in Boston

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Sarafina "Sara" Nardi's passion for community service began when she was just four years old. Now 14, the AJHS student recently joined 400 other Massachusetts teens for a day of inspiring community service in Boston.

The eighth grader served as her school's "ambassador" on Jan. 16 at community service events organized by Project 351 – a nonprofit organization dedicated to celebrating youth leadership, inspiring the ethic of service, and building unity across the state.

Nardi – selected from more than 300 eighth graders at Agawam Junior High School – was chosen because of her exemplary service ethic and values of kindness and compassion. Nardi said she was "very excited" to represent AJHS and Agawam.

"I'm honored to be able to do more community service and be a part of Project 351," added Nardi. The day – which kicked off a year of service and leadership development for the student ambassadors – brought the new class of Project 351 ambassadors together for the first time.

They honored the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. with a full day of team-based service across Boston. Launched in 2010, Project 351's day of service is held on the Saturday before the observance of Dr. King's birthday.

Nardi's first community service experience came at a very young age when she served Thanksgiving dinners alongside her family at the Boys and Girls Club in Springfield. It became a family tradition – her maternal grandfather was chairman of the club's board of directors – and instilled in Nardi



Agawam eighth grader Sara Nardi shows off a poster she created that highlights some of the community service work she has done as a Rachel's Table Teen Board member, which was one reason she was chosen to represent Agawam Junior High School at a statewide community service day this week. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

SERVICE | page 6

TOWN GOVERNMENT

Council, mayor return to table

Legislative leaders now holding regular 'agenda review' with Cohen

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

The new leadership of the Agawam City Council has gotten things off to a good start after holding its first meeting on Tuesday night at Roberta Doering School.

While there was not a lot of heavy business on the agenda, new Council President James Cichetti and Vice President Joseph Mineo got used to their new roles.

To start things off, Cichetti and Mineo held their first agenda review meeting with Mayor Richard Cohen.

Upon being elected as the new president of the Council, Cichetti said he was dedicated to creating a better partnership with the mayor and the rest of his administration. In addition to the basics of going over the agenda, Cichetti says it gives him and Mineo, and others, the opportunity to get further explanations about why certain items are placed on the agenda.

"We do get backup material set out with our agendas," said Cichetti. "But these reviews allow to have a chance to get a dialogue going and maybe ask further questions. Some of these questions are questions that will come up with

COUNCIL | page 6

HIGH SCHOOL

'Buddy' program makes students feel at home

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Kristina Nardi always gets excited when she sees her "buddies" – especially if she knows they'll be spending time together.

The Agawam High School junior has more opportunities to do that now, because of an afterschool program called Best Buddies. It matches intellectually and developmentally disabled students like Kristina with regular education students. Together, they engage in typical teenage activities – performing karaoke, playing board games, watching movies, or just hanging out.

AHS special education teacher

Jeanne Moriarty, one of the program's co-advisors, said as students with disabilities become more involved in the high school community and participate more in classes, there's a need for a program to help them make and create friendships.

"Having a Best Buddies program increases the exposure of students with disabilities to regular education students in a social atmosphere – not just in the academic classes at school," said Moriarty.

A popular nonprofit organization with chapters in schools and colleges across the country, Best Buddies was

BUDDIES | page 9

Holding court



Agawam's fifth and sixth grade Suburban League basketball team scored a big win over Longmeadow this week. More photos, page 11. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



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20 PAGES

AHS Class of '61 plans reunion meeting

The first meeting for 55th reunion of the Agawam High Class of 1961 will take place at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 28, at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. All former classmates are invited to attend.

Wine tasting to benefit AHS hockey teams

The Agawam High School hockey teams will hold a wine tasting fundraiser from 7 to 11 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5. Sponsored by Crestview Country Club and Bertelli's Liquors, it takes place at Crestview, 281 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam.

The night's events will include hors d'oeuvres, a buffet dinner, music, raffle prizes and a cash bar.

Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased in advance by contacting Calli Phillips at 413-575-3377 or at the door.

Hmm, OK, so there's a fee for burning ... what is that money used for?

— Janice, on "Agawam, MA Open Forum" at Facebook.com

Burning brush and yard waste in Agawam now requires a \$10 fee.

"Money from those permits goes into an account that we do not have direct control over," Agawam Fire Chief Alan Sirois said this week. "The funds ... can basically be spent with the authorization of the mayor's office and the [City] Council."

He said the intention of the permit fee, however, is to offset the Fire Department's cost of responding to wildfires and permitted burns that get out of hand. He said he hopes town leaders use the permit revenue on Fire Department needs.

Since Jan. 15, more than 25 permits have been sold, and Sirois said he "really can't venture to guess" how many permits will be sold over the course of the season — there aren't any records of total issuances in previous years, when permits were given out at no cost. At \$10 for a full-season permit, however, he is not ex-

pecting a large windfall.

"It's really not going to be a huge amount of revenue," Sirois said. "We're not trying to extort a lot of money out of the residents of Agawam."

Under the new law, which was passed in March 2015 and took effect this month, property owners who wish to burn brush in Agawam are required to purchase a \$10 annual permit from the Fire Department. As in previous years, they are also required to call the Fire Department after 9:30 a.m. on the day that they wish to burn, to inform firefighters of the burn and to ensure that it is safe to burn. On some days — including a few of the drier, windier days so far this month — burning will not be allowed.

Burning season lasts until May 1. To apply for a permit, visit www.agawam.ma.us/burning, call 413-786-0657 or visit Fire Headquarters at 800 Main St., Agawam.

"You Asked?" is an occasional series of short articles answering questions of local interest from Agawam Advertiser News readers and social media. See something around town you'd like to know more about? Email your question to aan@turley.com.

Agawam Advertiser News Obituary Policy

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$50, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries

should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

Lioness Club to host Mohegan Sun trip

The Agawam Lioness Club will host a trip to Mohegan Sun Sunday, March 13. Anyone interested in going is asked to be at the Agawam High School parking lot at noon. The bus will depart as soon as everyone has boarded.

The cost is \$33 per person, which includes bus driver's tip, a \$15 food voucher and a \$15 free bet voucher. Proceeds from this trip will be used for the various charities the Agawam Lioness Club supports. The public is invited. Early reservations are encouraged, as seats are limited. For reservations, call Pat at 413-786-1782 or Rose at 413-786-5134.

Robotics team hosts ziti dinner Feb. 5

Agawam Robotics Education Association Team 839 Rosie Robotics will host another of its World Famous Ziti Dinners on Feb. 5 at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., Agawam.

Dinner will be served from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door or from any Rosie Robotics student. They are available at \$8 per adult, \$5 for children 6-12, and free for children under 5.

The team will hold a 50-50 raffle and a Chinese raffle. All money raised will help with expenses of building robots, traveling to and competing in competitions.

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JEANNE JOHNSON, MD

News is on the move this month

After many years, our Agawam Advertiser News staff will be relocating later this month from Feeding Hills Center to our company's existing printing plant in West Springfield.

This was not a decision we took lightly. While our desks will no longer be in town, our newspaper and its staff will remain as much a part of the community as they have always been. You will continue to see our writers and photographers at town meetings and events, and our advertising representatives will drop by your businesses as they always have. Our phone number, 413-786-7747, and our news-

room email address, aan@turley.com, will remain the same. While our preferred method of submitting items for publication to the paper is email and we invite our readers to continue to contact our editor, Michael Ballway, at mballway@turley.com, we plan to set up at least one drop box in town, at the library, for those who have hard copy items for submission. Please call our office with any questions at 413-786-7747.

We remain committed to our mission to provide Agawam and Feeding Hills with their most reliable hometown newspaper. Happy reading!

Reiki, tai chi sessions next week

The Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., will host the following adult programs next week.

Jan. 25, 3 to 6 p.m.: Staff from Feeding Hills Wellness will offer free 10-minute sessions of either reiki or therapeutic massage. Therapeutic modalities support and assist the body to reduce stress and increase relaxation, which promotes healing. For more information, visit www.feedinghills-wellness.com. Registration is recommended, as time slots are limited. Registration is

by phone only at 413-789-1550, ext. 4, and begins Jan. 4.

Jan. 26, 7 p.m.: Adult Drop-In Tai Chi will meet on the last Tuesday of the month now through May. The classes are for beginners, but all adults 18 and older are welcome to attend. Wear comfortable clothing that allows freedom of movement. Susan Moore has over 20 years of experience teaching exercise and mind/body practices, including both tai chi and yoga, to people of all ages and abilities. No registration is needed.

Friendly's 'Cones for Kids' runs through Feb. 13

Friendly's, at 19 Springfield St., Agawam, launched its annual "Cones for Kids" campaign last week. The Valentine's Day fundraiser will benefit 17 Easter Seals programs.

For a \$1 donation, Friendly's provides restaurant guests with five Valentine's Day cards, redeemable for a free Friendly's Single Cone or a coupon booklet with money

saving offers on Friendly's favorites. The campaign runs through Feb. 13.

Funds raised will support Easter Seals programs that make a difference in the lives of children with disabilities.

The campaign has raised nearly \$29 million across all Friendly's Ice Cream LLC locations over the past 34 years.

Town seeks new animal control agreement with Southwick

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

With the cost of housing stray dogs in Westfield on the rise, Agawam is looking to reunite its animal shelter operations with neighboring Southwick.

Mayor Richard Cohen is asking the Agawam City Council to approve a new animal shelter services agreement to use the Southwick-Polverari Animal Control Facility to send dogs taken in by Agawam's animal control officer. Southwick had ended a previous agreement with Agawam in 2011.

"It was a decision Southwick made at the time," said Cohen. "They had a different situation where they simply could not handle the dogs we were sending to the town."

After losing its agreement with Southwick, Agawam joined a multi-municipal facility in Westfield. Agawam paid about \$10,000 to help outfit the shelter with cages and other equipment to house its share of the animals. West Springfield made a similar investment.

The agreement lasted for five years, with Agawam paying \$10,800 per year to house dogs at the facility. Cohen said he decided not to renew the agreement because of large increases in the cost to house animals at the facility, located on the far side of the city near Westfield High School.

"We had a good arrangement with Westfield and West Springfield," said Cohen. "We worked well with them and I have nothing bad to say about them. But the costs have gone up now. And fortunately, Southwick is in a much better situation and we were able to reach an agreement with them."

Two years ago, Southwick resident Robert Polverari made a \$300,000 donation and built Southwick a new, state-of-the-art animal shelter that can house cats and dogs, as well as have a separate area for adoptions and a quarantine area, which is now required by state law. State law only requires a town to have place to send dogs. Agawam does not have a place to board cats and their proposed agreement with Southwick does not include Agawam cats, Cohen said.

The new agreement is for \$10,000 for one year.

Cohen said the agreement can be amended or extended by the two towns. He did not say why the agreement was only for one year.

"We made a one-year agreement and we will have the ability to sign a new agreement when that is up," said Cohen.

The agreement does not involve any additional investments by Agawam. It does say the Agawam animal control officer will be trained to process any animal brought to Southwick, and all animals brought to Southwick and retrieved by their owners will have to pay Southwick for retrieval.

Agawam will be required to pay any vaccination charges for animals not retrieved by their owners, as well as the cost of boarding of animals.

Cohen is hoping the City Council will approve the new agreement and praised Police Chief Eric Gillis for negotiating the new agreement with Southwick Police Chief David Ricardi.

"I believe this agreement will work well for our town," said Cohen. "It costs less and it is so much closer for our ACO to bring an animal to Southwick's facility."

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Opinion

OUR VIEW

Rotary? Parks? Make sure it works

In their zeal to give Agawam what it's never had, a real downtown, planners have made some bold suggestions in the past year or two. No matter how innovative their ideas are, however, there's a limit to what they can accomplish without business.

Various plans for Walnut Street Extension have called for such embellishments as a gateway arch, a "pocket park," wide sidewalks for strolling, street-side parking that isn't quite on-street, a "roundabout" rotary at the southern end of the shopping district and, at one point, the exclusion of all vehicle traffic.

These plans are great examples of the New Urbanism, a planning trend that started in the 1990s as a backlash against suburbanization, malls and "big box" retail. The notion that a "walkable downtown" is inherently superior to an automobile-oriented strip mall is beloved by professionals in the field of civic planning. Attend any New England planning board meeting or planning commission presentation, and you'll hear plenty of praise for human-scale historical centers, like those at the core of Agawam's neighboring cities of Westfield and West Springfield. That's despite the fact that the present-day retail success stories of those cities are outside downtown — in the suburban sprawl of the Little River and Riverdale shopping centers.

Whatever the town builds on Walnut Street Extension doesn't just have to look nice, or satisfy a nostalgic yearning for the busy sidewalks of yesteryear. It also has to work as a modern business district in a town where, for better or for worse, just about everybody drives and very few people commute by bus, bike or foot. Without catering to the convenience of customers, those pretty promenades will be empty and the town will have wasted its — our — money.

Soon town officials will take what they hope is the final plan — with the roundabout, wider sidewalks and less on-street parking — to merchants to court their approval. The merchants will care about one thing: Does this plan help me retain my current patrons, and will it help me attract new ones?

Does replacing a four-way stop with a rotary make it easier for customers to arrive on Walnut Street Extension from Feeding Hills, Agawam Center and all the other too-far-to-walk neighborhoods?

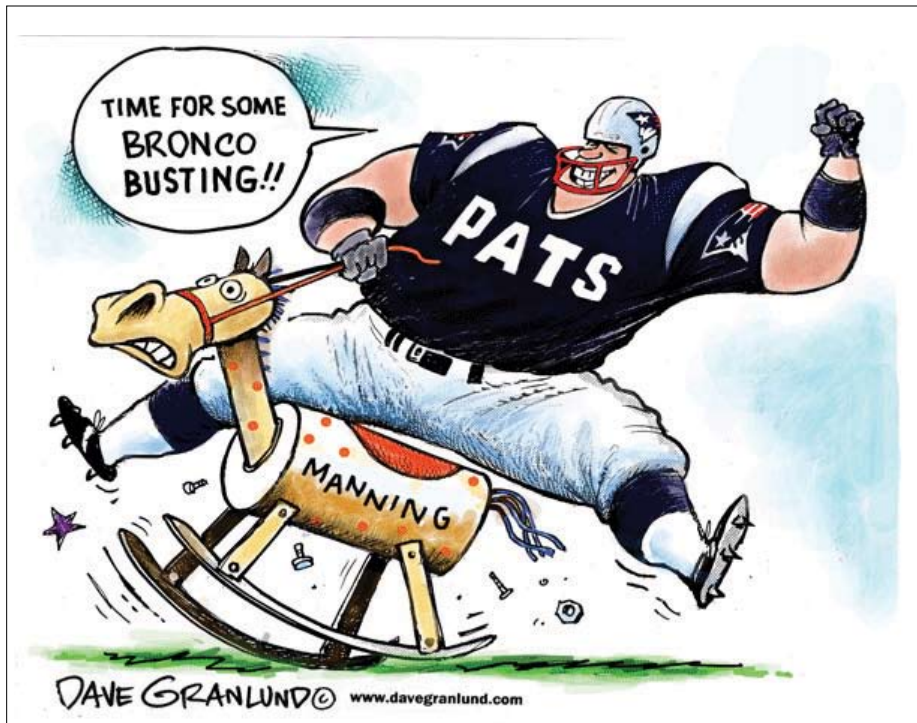
Do widening the sidewalks and moving some of the parking spaces make a visit to the hairdresser or the restaurant more or less of a hassle, particularly on cold, rainy or hot days?

On the other hand: Would turning a run-of-the-mill strip mall into an attractive "downtown" create buzz and excitement in a neighborhood that's been long dominated by the empty hulk of Games and Lanes? Could we have, as the mayor has suggested, another Northampton here in a few years?

There are several reasons that New Urbanism has held on as a design trend for two decades. It's not the solution to every problem, but a glance at any tourist town or major city shows that such neighborhoods can be wildly successful. Given a choice, and given equal convenience, people seem to enjoy having a cozier atmosphere than the typical big-box strip mall, something that appeals to our sense of place and sense of aesthetics.

All that beauty and nostalgia isn't an end in itself, however. The urban history of the 20th century made it very clear that people will abandon downtown if malls and sprawl are more convenient. The "walkable downtown" can work for Agawam — but only if it works for business.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.



Letter to the Editor

Honoring Dr. King with service

Martin Luther King Jr. was an American icon whose legacy many of us choose to honor by volunteering in our communities. King was a man who taught the world that passivity does not make a better community — active, concerned citizens are the ones to enact change.

As a member of American Legion Auxiliary Department of Massachusetts, I know, as King said, "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." Times may be hard and the economy might be rough, but we can make our communities better places to live in King's honor.

American Legion Auxiliary members have dedicated themselves for nearly a century to meeting the needs of our nation's veterans, military and their families both here and abroad. They volunteer millions

of hours yearly, with a value of nearly \$2 billion. As part of the world's largest women's patriotic service organization, Auxiliary volunteers across the country also step up to honor veterans and military through annual scholarships and with ALA Girls State programs, teaching high school juniors to be leaders grounded in patriotism and Americanism.

To learn more about the Auxiliary's mission or to volunteer, donate or join, contact your local American Legion Auxiliary Unit, the Department of Massachusetts American Legion Auxiliary at 617-727-2958 or masslegion-aux@verizon.com to contact your local unit or visit www.ALAforVeterans.org.

Mary Ellen Morissette
American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Massachusetts
Public Relations Chairman

YESTERDAY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

Miss Miller to Larry Scherpa (Part 2)

On April 21, 1945, Agawam High School English teacher Eleanor Miller wrote another letter to her former student, Larry Scherpa. She had been receiving letters from Larry, reading about World War II news in the paper and getting information from her hairdresser Frank Mediavilla, Larry's brother-in-law. Maybe you remember Frank and Tito beauty shops. They were started by Larry's two brothers-in-law, Frank and Tito Mediavilla, who grew up on Spring Street in Springfield. Next door lived the Bitsacos family, whose daughter Diana was the flower girl for Angela Mediavilla's marriage to Larry Scherpa. Diana Bitsacos is now Diana LaZazzera, whose children, John, Mike and Laurie, all went to AHS.

Miss Miller writes that AHS has a good baseball team coached by Lino Schinelli and a new baseball diamond near the new school in the center. That must have been behind Phelps School. Her joints are stiff as she writes. She has been picking asparagus for hours on her farm in Hadley, cutting it and preparing it for market. It's been a warm spring and she is fearful of the damage a frost could bring.

"The news from Europe sounds so good it doesn't seem that the war there can last much longer." How true. V-E Day was 17

days later on May 8. Larry's 486th Anti Aircraft Battalion was helping the 3rd Armored Division defeat the Germans. Later, at the end of July, his battalion was visited by President Truman and General Eisenhower. Larry took their picture standing only 20 feet away.

In early August, the 486th was preparing for a possible trip to Japan but the A-bombs ended everything in Asia, sending Larry home in November after being promoted to a TEC4. He received many medals, ribbons and citations, including the Good Conduct and Victory

medals. From 1946 to 1958, Larry worked for Springfield Wallpaper and Paint Company. Finding this out really intrigued me, because the store was located along the triangle which was across the street from the Hotel Kimball in Springfield. My family's restaurant, Willard's Restaurant, was right around the corner at 141-143 Chestnut St. I am sure that Larry Scherpa probably ate lunch there many times. My mom probably brought him his meal, which was cooked by my dad. Maybe she and Larry traded stories about their children back home in Agawam.

Larry and Angela had three children,



Walt Willard

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- le donation ts Red Cross 60 Million watch a reality TV show
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Monday at Noon. Please send letters to *Agawam Advertiser News*, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030 or e-mail aan@turley.com.

AGAWAM

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School Committee Meeting

Roberta G. Doering School
68 Main Street
Tuesday, Jan. 26 – 7 p.m.

1. Call to order
2. Moment of silence
3. Roll call of attendance
4. Regular meeting – 7 p.m.
5. Citizen's speak time
6. Highlights on Education
 - a. "Techno Geeks" presentation
7. Superintendent's Notes
8. Student Advisory Committee representative update
9. Unfinished business:
SCR-16-01, Approval of the 2016-2017 AHS Program of Studies
10. Business meeting:
 - a. Routine matters
 - 1) Approval of minutes
 - 2) Calendar/Correspondence
 - b. Warrants/Transfers
 - c. Reports:
 - 1). Scheduled reports:
 - Personnel update (paper report)
 - Financial update – R. Clickstein
 - Behavior Health Network update – Kathy Moss
 - 2). Subcommittee updates
11. New business:
 - a. SCR-16-02, Request to reschedule half-day of professional development
 - b. SCR-16-03, Authorization to prepare a statement of interest for the Accelerated Repair Program for the Roberta G. Doering School
 - c. SCR-16-04, Approval of job description for a PreK-12 Attendance/Collection/Safety Supervisor
 - d. SCR-16-05, Adoption of 2016-2017 school calendar
12. Any other items that may legally come before the committee
13. Adjournment

Big E memorabilia sought for exhibit

The Agawam Historical and Firehouse Museum will open for the season Sunday, April 24. The museum, which houses a collection of artifacts showcasing the town's history, is currently preparing an exhibit to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Eastern States Exhibition. Anyone that has memorabilia they would like to include in this exhibit is asked to call Anne at 413-786-3031.

For more information, visit www.agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com or follow it on Facebook.

HOMETOWN ■ from page 4

starting with their son Lawrence A. in 1948. Larry A. married Marcia Cebrelli and taught for 44 years in East Longmeadow. They now have four grandchildren. Larry and Angela's first daughter, Dolores, was born in 1951. She is a math teacher in Columbia, Conn., and she has three grandchildren. Their second daughter, Jeanne, was born in 1954 and she is a reading teacher in Biddeford, Maine, waiting for her first grandchild, which is on the way.

Larry and Angela passed away in the '70s before they reached the age of 60. Surely they were proud of the three teachers they parented.

Note: Part 1 of this column was printed in the Agawam Advertiser News on Dec. 24, 2015. Angelo "Amaroli" should have been Angelo Cimaroli in Part 1. Miss Miller's letters to Larry Scherpa can be read at the reference desk in the lower level of the Agawam Public Library.

Walt Willard went to AHS and taught math there for 16 years. He can be reached at 413-786-7924. Call him. Walt loves your feedback and any and all information or tidbits you can offer.



Eleanor Miller



Larry Scherpa

Agawam Advertiser News Obituary Policy

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$50, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

DEATH NOTICES

Bogue, Phyllis D.
Died Jan. 16
Funeral Jan. 20
Agawam Funeral Home, Inc.

Emily H. Chiaplinski
Died Jan. 10
Funeral Jan. 15
Agawam Funeral Home, Inc.

Costella, Raymond F.
Died Jan. 15
Funeral Jan. 20
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam

Disco, Edward
Died Jan. 15
Funeral Jan. 22
Agawam Funeral Home, Inc.

Jean, Georgette G.
Died Jan. 13
Funeral Jan. 19
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam

Komla, Alberta M.
Died Jan. 12
Funeral Jan. 19
Agawam Funeral Home

McLean, Albert S.
Died Jan. 13
Funeral Jan. 18
Curran-Jones Funeral Home Agawam



TABLE FOR TWO

Chocolate peanut butter cake

Chocolate and peanut butter — a wonderful marriage of two great flavors. This recipe begins with my standard cake formula using chocolate cake mix rather than yellow or white. Although the recipe calls for chocolate instant pudding mix, I have substituted vanilla without anyone noticing.

An electric mixer is not always necessary to combine the frosting and peanut butter. If both are room temperature, a rubber spatula is sufficient. If the frosting seems too difficult to spread, stir in about 1-2 T. of milk. Also, the frosting will spread easier if the cake is allowed to chill in the refrigerator for about 1 hour after it has cooled completely on the wire rack. (Wrap in plastic wrap while in the fridge.) I tend to prefer my cakes after they have been chilled, as I find the texture to be a bit more moist and dense. And when chilled, it develops a firmness, making it easier to cut the cake in half. And while the cake is chilling, you should refrigerate or freeze the peanut butter cups since they are easier to chop if they are cold or frozen.



Ann Macey

2 peanut butter cups (1.5 oz. pkg.)

In a large bowl, combine first 5 ingredients with a wire whisk (60-70 strokes) or electric mixer. Pour mixture into a 6 inch springform pan that has been sprayed with a nonstick cooking spray. Bake in a 350° oven for 35-40 minutes or until cake is done. Remove from springform pan immediately and allow to cool completely on wire rack (about 1 hour). In a medium bowl, combine frosting and peanut butter with an electric mixer until smooth. With a long bread knife, split the cake into two horizontal layers. Set the bottom layer, cut side up, on serving plate. Spread about 1/3 C. frosting on top of the bottom layer. Chop peanut butter cups into tiny pieces and sprinkle half over frosting. Set top cake layer, cut side down, on top of the bottom layer. Frost top and sides of cake with the remaining frosting. Sprinkle top of cake with the remaining candy. Yield: 4-5 servings.

NOTES: When a toothpick inserted into the center of the cake comes out clean, the cake is done. If making a family-sized cake, bake a whole boxed chocolate cake according to package directions. Use the entire can of frosting with 1 C. peanut butter and double the number of peanut butter cups.

Ann Macey is the author of "Ann's Table for Two: Quick & Easy Two Serving Recipes." Ann welcomes your questions and comments. You may contact her at AnnsTable@gmail.com.

Tripping

Monthly: Mohegan Sun Casino trip with the Friends of the Agawam Senior Center. Trips for 2016 are Jan. 25, Feb. 22, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, Aug. 22, Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Nov. 28, Dec. 26. \$25 per person. Call Penny at Friends of the Agawam Senior Center, 413-519-7223.

Jan. 25: 2 p.m. presentation at the American Inn, 1 Saw Mill Park, Southwick, about a trip to South America in January 2017.

Feb. 9: Mohegan Sun Casino. \$21 per person includes \$15 meal credit or free buffet and \$20 bet. Leave Southwick Senior Center, 454 College Highway at 8 a.m. Registration required by Jan. 22 at the Senior Center office or by calling 413-569-5498. Payment due at registration.

March 12-19: London, England trip hosted by Westfield State Alumni Assoc. \$1,739 per person double occupancy if paid by credit card; discount if paid by cash or check. Single rooms available for additional fee. \$400 deposit due at booking; full balance due 75 days before departure. Call Kathi Bradford at 413-485-7355 or visit www.westfieldalumni.org. Room and meal taxes included.

March 15: St. John's Travelers to Chez Josef in Agawam for show featuring Tony Kenny direct from Ireland. \$59 per person includes lunch. Call Emile Cote at 413-335-9440.

March 21-24: Ocean City, Md., for "Branson at the Beach." \$798 per person, double occupancy; \$778 per person, triple; \$998, single. Call Emile Cote at St. John's Travelers, 413-335-9440.

April 11: Newport Playhouse and Cabaret for the day for dinner theater with a buffet, followed by a short play, "One Slight Hitch," and a comedic cabaret show.

\$92, due by March 4. Call George Wheeler, Southwick Travelers group leader, at 413-569-3854.

April 12: Bennington, Vt. \$72 per person. Call Penny Hardick, Friends of the Agawam Senior Center, 413-519-7223.

April 24-29: Las Vegas, Nevada. \$869 per person/double, triple; \$1,069 per person, single occupancy. Call Penny Hardick, Friends of the Agawam Senior Center, 413-519-7223.

April 30: U.S. Military Academy Review at West Point. \$114 per person due Feb. 1. Call Emile Cote at 413-335-9440.

May 6-14: Alaska inside passage cruise. 10 days, nine nights sailing from Seattle, Wash. Call Emile Cote with St. John's Travelers, 413-335-9440.

May 17-19: Amish Country, Lancaster, Penn. \$419 per person, double occupancy; \$397 per person, triple occupancy; \$507 per person, single occupancy. Call Penny Hardick, Friends of the Agawam Senior Center, 413-519-7223.

May 24: Will and Anthony Nunziata at Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, Conn. Broadway meets the music of old Italy. \$94 due by April 18. Call George Wheeler, Southwick Travelers group leader, at 413-569-3854.

June 6-19: Escorted Alaska land and cruise trip will include six nights on land and seven nights on the Holland America cruise ship Zaandam. Call George Wheeler, Southwick Travelers group leader, at 413-569-3854.

June 14-16: Lancaster, Pa., for a showing of "Sampson and Delilah." \$448 per person, double occupancy; \$428 per person, triple; \$598, single. \$50 deposit is required. Call Emile Cote at St. John's Travelers, 413-335-9440.

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SERVICE ■ from page 1

a desire to help out in the community. “It’s important for young people to do these types of activities,” said Nardi, who also volunteers at her church. She added that the younger people start participating in these types of activities, the more awareness they can create to make communities better places to live.

Her favorite community service project is Rachel’s Table, an organization working to alleviate childhood hunger. A member of the group’s Teen Board, Nardi has been helping to educate others about the issue of hunger.

She participated in the Teen Board’s Hunger Awareness Artsfest, packed backpacks of food for homeless children, baked with the elderly – and then donated those goods to the homeless – and helped to organize a Thanksgiving food drive.

AJHS Principal Norm Robbins called Nardi an “outstanding” leader.

“Sara is humble and genuine in her deeds and actions. She truly fits the profile that best represents what Project 351 is all about,” he said. “Her involvement in community service and her willingness to help others both in and out of school is a testament to what a great person she is.

Peace builder, role model

Nardi has participated in an anti-bullying presentation at her school and recently received a Peace Builder Award from the school’s peer mediators. It is presented to a student who is identified as someone who looks to find the good in others and picture the good that can be and acts to bring it about, said AJHS teacher Jennifer MacDonald.

MacDonald, a Spanish teacher at the school who serves as advisor to Project 351 and the peer mediators, accompanied Nardi and her mother, Corinna Capriati, to Boston. She called Nardi a “role model” for her peers.

“She has patience, is kind, and has a natural willingness to help others,” MacDonald said. “It’s obvious that Sara helps

others because she enjoys it and has an internal satisfaction from it, not because of being recognized. This is why she’s the perfect recipient to be our ambassador. Through Sara’s service, others will see the true meaning of community service.”

Nardi and the other ambassadors were joined by Gov. Charlie Baker at a morning kickoff at Faneuil Hall to celebrate Dr. King before they fanned out across Boston for community service activities at five non-profit organizations, including Pine Street Inn, Cradles to Crayons, Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción, and the Greater Boston Food Bank. The day wrapped up with a youth town meeting and service celebration at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Museum and Library.

‘Unsung heroes’

Carolyn Casey, executive director and founder of Project 351, called Nardi and her fellow ambassadors “a group of unsung heroes and quiet leaders committed to strengthening their communities and our commonwealth.”

Nardi said she’s grateful that MacDonald, who has been a big part of her community service for the past two years, accompanied her to Boston.

“Mrs. MacDonald is a selfless person who loves to be there for everyone and loves to give back to people,” she said. “Whether it’s in class or at Rachael’s Table meetings, her generosity and kindness rubs off on everyone around her.”

Capriati was “pleasantly surprised” to receive a call from Robbins telling her that her daughter had been chosen as a Project 351 ambassador.

“I’ve always encouraged and embraced her willingness to contribute to others less fortunate,” she said. “We couldn’t be more proud of her.”

Capriati, who works in the kitchen at Phelps School, said the family supports her daughter’s community service activities: “Her dad, Dave Nardi, a retired police officer, is one of her biggest supporters.”



Sara Nardi and her teacher, Jennifer MacDonald, review Nardi’s poster that challenges students to create a more peaceful world. Nardi, who has a passion for helping others, is a recent recipient of the Peace Builder Award given by the school’s peer mediators for her efforts to find the good in others. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK



Agawam’s Sara Nardi was one of 400 Massachusetts teens at Boston’s Faneuil Hall on Jan. 16 to kick off a day of community service that honored the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. She served as her school’s “ambassador” to Project 351, a nonprofit organization dedicated to celebrating youth leadership. SUBMITTED PHOTO

COUNCIL ■ from page 1

the rest of the council during the meeting, and we can be ready to answer them.”

In a short speech to the council Tuesday night, Cichetti said he is dedicated to creating a better partnership with the mayor and hopes it will lead to the mayor attending more council meetings and subcommittee meetings.

Cohen said last Friday’s meeting with the councilors was a success and he is looking forward to having them before each meeting.

“Just as I said in my inaugural address, I believe the mayor and the council needs to work together and be friends,” said Cohen. “I thought the agenda review went really well and myself and the councilors were able to discuss the items and exchange opinions.”

Cichetti said he hopes it will be the beginning of a more positive relationship with the administrative branch of government, a relationship that had been strained the past few years.

Cohen said he had done agenda reviews with past council presidents, but they ceased a couple of years ago. He is pleased to have them again under Cichetti and

Mineo.

Cichetti invited all councilors that are able to take part in the agenda reviews and come speak with the mayor. The first review also included councilors Paul Cavallo and Richard Theroux.

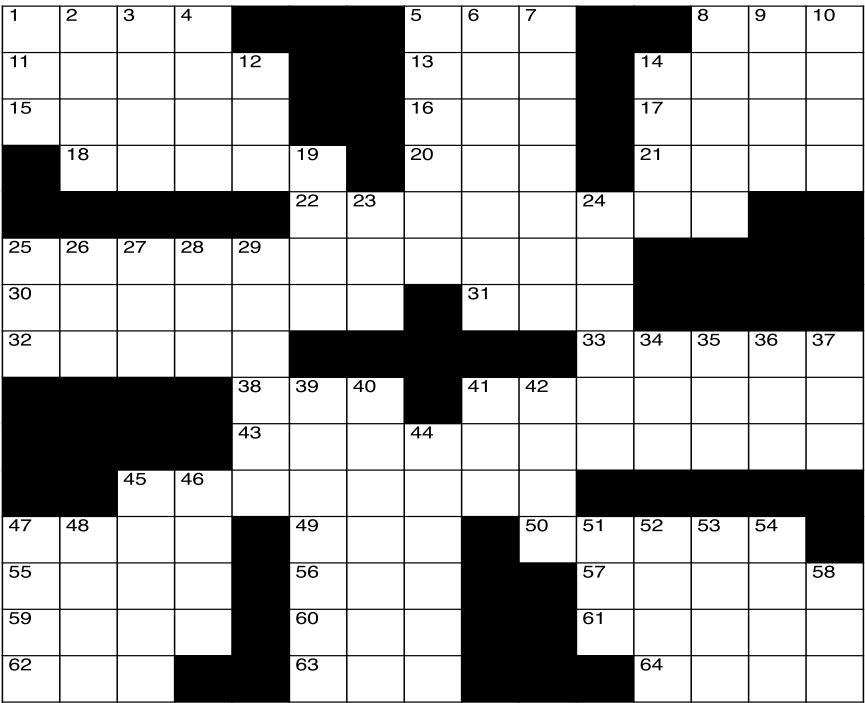
The new president also said he would be “shaking things up” a bit and announced his new subcommittee assignments earlier this week.

The council has four major subcommittees, Administrative, Legislative, Community Relations and Finance.

With Mineo now in the role of council vice president, Cichetti named former Council President Christopher Johnson to take Mineo’s former role as chairman of the Finance Committee.

Cichetti was previously the chairman of the Legislative Subcommittee. He has handed the reins of that committee over to new Councilor Richard Theroux.

Councilor George Bitzas is the new chairman of the Community Relations Subcommittee, and second term Councilor Anthony Suffriti will lead the Administrative Subcommittee.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Women (French)
- 5. Hyrax
- 8. Distress signal
- 11. Trade
- 13. Large northern deer
- 14. The 3 Wise Men
- 15. Marten of N Asian forests
- 16. Hoover’s agency
- 17. Received an A
- 18. 2nd Islamic month
- 20. Light brown
- 21. Clarified butter used in Indian cookery
- 22. Frankness
- 25. Argentina’s capital
- 30. Citizen of Kenya or Zimbabwe
- 31. Noah’s boat
- 32. Family of languages in So.
- 33. Inappropriate
- 38. Scientific workplace
- 41. Hungriness
- 43. Say to talk about an annoying topic
- 45. Sing and play for somebody
- 47. Strike buster
- 49. A citizen of Thailand
- 50. Civil Rights group
- 55. Honest
- Company’s Jessica
- 56. ‘___ death do us part
- 57. Malarias
- 59. Claim against another’s property
- 60. Mined metal-bearing mineral
- 61. Dashery
- 62. Capacity unit
- 63. Primary color
- 64. Indian dress

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Manuscripts (abbr.)
- 2. Netherlands river
- 3. Italian island
- 4. One’s own being
- 5. More adroit
- 6. Balkan country
- 7. Psychologist B.F. Goldman ___
- 9. Double curve
- 10. The plane of a figure
- 12. Ocean
- 14. Public presses
- 19. Civil Rights activist Parks
- 23. Cooking container
- 24. Arctic native
- 25. Founder of Babism
- 26. Bashkortostan capital
- 27. Bulky grayish-brown eagle
- 28. Louse egg
- 29. About sight
- 34. ___/Tuck: TV drama
- 35. Black tropical American cuckoo
- 36. Chest muscle (slang)
- 37. Expression of disappointment
- 39. One who assists
- 40. Antilles island
- 41. Served food
- 42. Egyptian Sun god
- 44. Performed successfully
- 45. Cavalry-sword
- 46. Abba __, Israeli politician
- 47. Jonas __, cured polio
- 48. The Muse of history
- 51. Express pleasure
- 52. Turkish leader titles
- 53. Castro country
- 54. Nobleman
- 58. ___ Lanka

Answers on page 19



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Public Safety

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 283 calls for service from Jan. 12 to Jan. 18. The department recorded six arrests in its public log. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Tuesday, Jan. 12

Shawn Cory Mullen, 32, of 43 Briarcliff Drive, Agawam, was arrested on a warrant.

David A. Nadolski, 28, of 8 Second St., Southwick, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

Thursday, Jan. 14

Ralph Damico, 62, of 74 Springfield St., Agawam, was arrested on charges of armed robbery, larceny of

drug, and trafficking in Class B.

Andrew J. Gruska, 20, of 60 Paul Revere Drive, Apt. 1A, Agawam, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear and assault and battery on a police officer.

Monday, Jan. 18

Christian Savoie, 24, of 21 Central St., Apt. A, East Brookfield, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

Jennie Rieser, 30, of 17 River Road, Sturbridge, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear and possession of a Class A drug.

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 67 EMS calls from Jan. 12 to Jan. 18, and the following emergency response calls.

On Jan. 12 at 2:50 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for lockout.

On Jan. 13 at 10:49 a.m., the department responded to River Road for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On Jan. 13 at 2:28 p.m., the department responded to Paul Revere drive for good intent call, other.

On Jan. 13 at 3:27 p.m., the department responded to General Abrams Drive for commercial compactor fire, confined to rubbish.

On Jan. 13 at 7:33 p.m., the department responded to Samuel Street for cooking fire, confined to container.

On Jan. 14 at 12:16 p.m., the department responded to Maple Street for smoke detector activation, no fire – unintentional.

On Jan. 14 at 3:40 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for lockout.

On Jan. 14 at 7:24 p.m., the department responded to N. Westfield Street for system malfunction, other.

On Jan. 14 at 4:05 p.m., the department responded

to Williams Street to cover assignment, standby, move up.

On Jan. 15 at 7:18 p.m., the department responded to Warren Street for gas leak (natural gas or LPG).

On Jan. 16 at 3:15 a.m., the department responded to Oxford Street for alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional.

On Jan. 16 at 3 p.m., the department responded to Sunset Terrace for smoke from barbecue, tar kettle.

On Jan. 16 at 4:55 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for good intent call, other.

On Jan. 16 at 8:50 p.m., the department responded to Cooper Street for unintentional transmission of alarm, other.

On Jan. 17 at 9:05 a.m., the department responded to Leonard Street, was dispatched and canceled en route.

On Jan. 17 at 3:30 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional.

On Jan. 18 at 4:22 p.m., the department responded to Tobacco Farm Road for smoke detector activation due to malfunction.



Sheriff Michael Ashe recently joined a statewide campaign to combat the stigma of mental illness. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sheriff's office backs mental health initiative

SPRINGFIELD — Hampden County's Michael J. Ashe Jr. recently became the first sheriff in Massachusetts to join the National Alliance on Mental Illness' CEOs Against Stigma campaign, pledging to create a mentally healthier work environment for the employees of the Hampden County Sheriff's Department.

"As sheriff of Hampden County for over 41 years, with 900-plus employees and over 1,500 inmates in our custody, I know all too well the stigma surrounding mental illness," Ashe remarked. "My staff is committed to treating these afflictions and removing the stigma that surrounds this critical issue in the workplace as well as in the community."

The campaign is designed to put an end to stigma in the workplace, employing top-down leadership to change misconceptions about mental health disorders and encouraging people to open up and speak freely about the conditions that affect them and their immediate families. Mental health disorders affect one in five adults and are the single greatest cause of lost productivity at work, according to NAMI.

"Unlike physical conditions, mental illness is often not discussed in the workplace," says Bernice Drumheller, president of NAMI-Western Mass. "Sheriff Ashe understands the importance and positive impact that the CEOs Against Stigma campaign brings to the work environment."

By signing the CEOs Against Stigma pledge, Sheriff Ashe makes the commitment to open up dialogue about mental health conditions without fear of disclosure, as well as making employees aware of the benefits available to them. He will also bring into his workplace NAMI's In Our Own Voice presentations, recognized by a leading national mental health researcher as the most effective anti-stigma program in America.

The goal of CEOs Against Stigma is to have 250 chief executives, including elected officials, join the campaign and to reach half a million employees. Any Massachusetts company or organization with at least 50 employees can take part. To contact the Agawam offices of NAMI-Western Mass., call 413-786-9139.

New lieutenants



A swearing-in ceremony was held Jan. 7 for Fire Lt. Marc Pereira at Agawam Town Hall. Pictured from left are Fire Chief Alan Sirois, Mayor Richard Cohen, Pereira, and his father, Robert Pereira. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



A swearing-in ceremony was held Jan. 12 for Fire Lt. Frank Matuszczak, right, who is pictured with Fire Lt. Marc Pereira.

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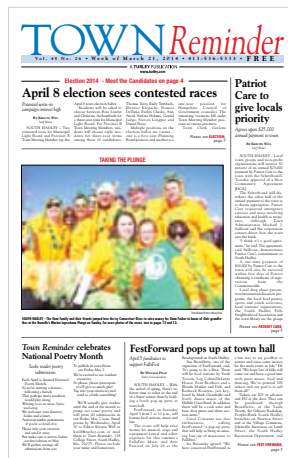
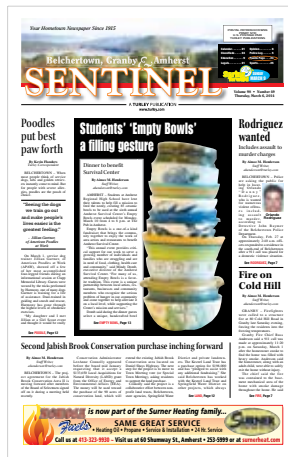
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BUDDIES ■ from page 1

created in 1989 to help intellectually and developmentally disabled individuals become part of mainstream society. AHS tried to form a Best Buddies chapter several years ago, but was put on a waiting list.

Budding Friendships

While waiting for approval, the school was encouraged to create its own program. Moriarty said a group of students interested in forming the chapter met and after brainstorming came up with the name Budding Friendships.

"Budding Friendships was more of an informal drop-in group of students who met at school every week," said Moriarty. She added that it laid a "good foundation" to transition to a Best Buddies chapter that was approved this past fall. After-school meetings are now held monthly rather than weekly.

A major difference between the programs, said Moriarty, is that special education students are now assigned specific peer buddies from a group of general education student volunteers. Another benefit is that students now get guidance and resources



Agawam High School juniors Kristina Nardi, left, and Lydia Koury are one of 16 "buddy" pairs who have been matched by similar interests in a Best Buddies program at the school. The program helps developmentally disabled students make more friendships by becoming more involved in the AHS community.

from the Best Buddies organization.

Several student volunteers said the program helps students with disabilities enjoy many of the same types of activities as other teenagers. They said the program provides students with disabilities the opportunity to develop more social skills.

Junior Lydia Koury, a peer buddy since she was a freshman, also has assisted special education students as a dance teacher and at Special Olympics events. She said Best Buddies gives intellectually and developmentally disabled students "a sense of home" in the school's hallways.

"They become our friends – just as they should – because they're no different from us and should be treated the same," Koury said. "When they see their friends, they feel loved, and that's all we are looking for."

Less school, more fun

Said senior Hannah Kresock: "It's less about school and more about having fun together." Student with disabilities, she said, "deserve to have the same social experiences as the rest of us – a disability shouldn't be a barrier that prevents that from happening."

Kresock said through interactions with regular education students, intellectually and developmentally disabled students find social settings more comfortable: "When you get to know these students, you realize that they have the same interests as the rest of us."

Sophomore Matthew Rowe said students he's met in Best Buddies "have challenges that I haven't experienced." He said matching students by similar interests "helps to break the ice" when students first meet.

Science teacher Shawn Rumprik became a co-advisor when the new chapter was formed. A driving force behind the push to get a Best Buddies chapter at AHS, he's seen the positive effect it's had on his autistic son.

"He joined a Best Buddies program last



Junior Kristina Nardi, center, enjoys karaoke with her "buddies" – senior Hannah Kresock, left, and junior Lydia Koury – during a monthly meeting of Agawam High School's Best Buddies club. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK

year at Ludlow High School," said Rumprik. "The program has helped him make relationships and offered him opportunities to participate in some great activities. I thought it would be great if we could bring the program to AHS."

Buddy pairs discovered their matches at a "matching" party and bonded over friendship bingo. Monthly meetings also feature activities for students to do together.

Friends, not outsiders

"We treat them like friends and peers, not like outsiders," said sophomore Nicholas Rempp. Between formal group meetings, buddy pairs connect via phone calls, text messages or other activities. They also meet for group activities outside of school.

The program started with 16 buddy pairs, but some pairs dropped out because of issues with both sides of the pair. Moriarty said this is typical of most programs. "We also have associate buddies like Hannah. They aren't matched, but attend meetings and outside activities so they're ready to step in as peer buddies if needed."

Koury said some of her most memorable moments with Best Buddies are seeing the joy on kids' faces as well as how welcome and comfortable they feel around her and others.

"Every day when I see this one girl in the hallway, her face lights up, she runs over to me, and gives me a hug," Koury said. "Making students who are now my friends this happy is just an incredible feeling."

Legals

AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT January 11, 2016

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Agawam Public Library, Community Room, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA on **Monday, February 1, 2016 at 6:30 PM** for all parties interested in the appeal of Steve Deland-Shibley Court, who is seeking a Variance from Section 180-31 (C) of the Agawam Zoning Ordinance to allow for the construction of an apartment unit at the premises identified as 33 Norman Terrace, also known as Shibley Court.

Doreen Prouty Chairperson
Agawam Board of Appeals
1/14, 1/21/16

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Docket No. HD16P0061EA
Estate of:
Mildred Lena Davis
Also Known As: Mildred
Lena Vogel Davis
Date of Death:
October 1, 2015
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PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Raymond W. Gendron** of Agawam MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Raymond W. Gendron of Agawam MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the

Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
1/21/16

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271.

Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit www.turley.com for more information.

16TH ANNUAL GIRLS & WOMEN IN SPORTS DAY Saturday, February 6, 2016



Registration: 8:00-8:30 a.m.

Clinic: 8:30-11:30 a.m.

This community service program is provided free of charge for girls ages 7 to 12.

- All clinics are taught by Western New England University coaches and varsity athletes.
- Clinics include: soccer, basketball, dance, field hockey, softball, swimming, and volleyball.

Your own future sports star is sure to be inspired!

Register online now at www.wnegoldenbears.com and click on "Girls & Women in Sports Day."

Any questions? Call Jenn Kolins at **796-2229**.

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Youth

CAMPUS NOTES

Holyoke Community College: Christopher Adams, Zeynep Basak, Inna Dyachkov, Jennifer Eggleston, Bo Fydenkevez, Troy Geoffroy, Christa Hurley, Amy Kane, Erva Sifa Keklik, Alexander King, Jordan Kozub, Carly LaBelle, Mary Leathem, Jared Lewis, Daniel Maly, Hang Thi Kim Pham, Matthew Plumador, Steven Schwein, Alyssa Torres and Macklen Meffen Wier, of Agawam; and Emily Borden, Ryan Giroux, Antonia Gray, Diana Ignatyuk, Jonathan Mach, Magdalena Maliszewska, Janelis Merced, Melissa Parenteau, Venu Jagdishbhai Patel, Reile Plante, Corey Roberts, Katherine Schneider, Jeffery Simpson, Jesse Smart, Justin Stanikmas, Amber Stepanik, Alexandria Stuetzel, Joseph Thresher and Corey Vincent, of Feeding Hills, were named to the fall semester dean's list.

Keene State College: Ashley Gage, of Agawam, and Vincenzo Scuderi, of Feeding Hills, were named to the fall semester dean's list.

Stonehill College: Marisa Nieves, of Agawam, studied in Greece at College Year Athens, and Lauren Dougherty, of Feeding Hills, studied in England at King's College, University of London for the fall semester.



Robin Parent, left, stands with Kiwanis Club scholarship recipients Kayla Moquin from Agawam High School and Hayley Rivers and Brent Smart, both from West Springfield High School, and West Springfield High School Principal Vito Perrone. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Agawam, West Side grads earn scholarships

The Kiwanis Club of West Springfield and Agawam awarded four scholarships on Jan. 5. Robin Parent, Kiwanis president, presented the scholarships to 2015

graduates Kayla Moquin from Agawam High School, and Haley Rivers and Brent Smart, both from West Springfield High School. Vincent Panuccio from Agawam,

who earned the fourth scholarship, was not present that evening. Vito Perrone, principal at West Springfield High School, was the keynote speaker.

Book 'im



Derek Aldrich, 7, shows off his finished "memory journal" at the Agawam Family and Community Program's monthly children's scrapbooking workshop on Jan. 12 at the Agawam Public Library. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Post office to display student artwork

Agawam Public School students in kindergarten through grade 6 will now have a permanent, public venue in which to display their works of art. With help and cooperation from the Agawam postmaster, supplies donated by Rocky's Ace Hardware and the support of administrators and colleagues, Agawam's visual arts teachers in

those grades will exhibit student artwork in the Suffield Street post office lobby on an ongoing basis. Exhibits will rotate approximately twice per year.

An opening celebration will be held in the space at 5 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21. All are invited.

School Lunch

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

The Agawam High School lunch menu is posted on the school's website.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, Jan. 25: French toast sticks, turkey sausage, hash brown, fresh fruit, orange juice.
Tuesday, Jan. 26: Chicken nuggets with dipping sauce, whipped potatoes, seasoned green beans, fresh and chilled fruit.
Wednesday, Jan. 27: Ziti with meatballs, garlic knot, corn on the cob, fresh and chilled fruit.
Thursday, Jan. 28: Barbeque rib, whole-grain bun, baked potato rounds, seasoned carrots, fresh and chilled fruit.
Friday, Jan. 29: Stuffed crust pizza, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST MENU ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST MENU

Monday, Jan. 25: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, cinnamon graham crackers, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Tuesday, Jan. 26: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted nutri-grain bars, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Wednesday, Jan. 27: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted muffins, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Thursday, Jan. 28: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted Trix yogurt, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Friday, Jan. 29: Pillsbury mini waffles with syrup for dipping, mozzarella cheese string, 1 percent low-fat milk, juice.

Agawam High School Counseling bulletin

College acceptances

Jimmy Adams – United States Navy; Laura Cafaro – Western New England University; Alec Ferrendino – Plymouth State University; Daphne Gauthier – University of Massachusetts Amherst, Westfield State University; Rachel Jurkowski – James Madison University; Hannah Kresock – Hofstra University; Julianne Moriarty – Keene State College, Worcester State University; Melina Reid – Westfield State University; Lydia Riccio – Western New England University; Jennifer Rossi – St. Michael's College, University of Massachusetts Amherst, University of New Hampshire; Ozan Sarpkaya – Wentworth Institute of Technology; Charles Sciafani – Westfield State University; Camille Williams – Franklin Pierce University.

Special interest programs

FAFSA Day 2016 is a non-profit, volunteer-driven program providing free assistance to students seeking to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. For anyone attending college in the fall of 2016, this is an opportunity not to miss. The event will be offered at Springfield Technical Community College on Jan. 31 at 1 p.m., Holyoke Community College on Feb. 21 at 1 p.m., and Amherst-Pelham Regional High School on Jan. 28. Families can learn more and register at <http://fafsaday.org>

Jr. Tech Inc., a Massachusetts-based non-profit that has delivered experiential STEM education programs in Massachusetts for the past 10 years, is offering Girls STEM Summit on Sunday, April 10, at Regis College in Weston. The focus is on girls in grades 8-12 who are interested in or curious about careers in the STEM fields. The registration fee is \$55 per student and includes all speakers, hands-on sessions, lunch and snacks, giveaways and a take home gift. Call 617-512-1794 with any questions.

Springfield Technical Community College is again offering the chance for current juniors and seniors to take up to one free course in the spring and summer semesters through the College Now program. This is a great way to earn college credits while in high school while trying courses that may be helpful in exploring a potential career interest. See your counselor for details.

The railroad industry is thriving and railroad companies are looking for qualified workers to fill a variety of positions. The Railroad Engineering Technology Associate Degree program at Gateway Community College (New Haven, Conn.) prepares students for such careers. Contact Rick Halkyard at 203-285-2311 for more information.

Scholarship information

Students should see their counselor or visit the websites for more information or an application: the Ronald McDonald House Charities; Walter S. Barr Scholarship; William R. Rooney Scholarship; Charitable and Educational Trust of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; Rebekah Assembly of Massachusetts; Edward P. Boland Scholarship; Jewish Endowment Fund; the Holyoke Credit Union Scholarship Program; Hood Milk Sportsmanship Scholarship; Red Pine Scholarship; Yawkey Scholars Program; Phillips Scholarship Fund; Michael Yaskick ADHD Scholarships by Shire; Big Y Scholarship; John F. Kennedy Library Foundation; Skidmore College; Westfield-West Springfield Elks Lodge 1481; Skidmore College; Westfield-West Springfield Elks Lodge 1481; Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps; Abbott & Fenner Business Consultants; Jack Kent Cooke Foundation; American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program; GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program; Henry David Thoreau Foundation; Aspiring Fashion Professional Scholarship; Aspiring Animation Professional Scholarship; Aspiring Nurse Scholarship.

Meritaid.com: On this free website, students can complete a profile and then access the college merit scholarships that match their profile. This organization does not sell its email lists to third parties. The site includes a comprehensive directory of merit scholarships and academic scholarships across the country.

Did You Know: Columbia University has a unique annual tradition of its own. On Orgo Night, the marching band storms into the Butler Library and plays the alma mater. Occurring at the conclusion of the fall and spring semesters, the intention is to provide students cramming for finals with a few light moments before returning to their studies.

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– Beth Atwood
Owner of The B's Hive

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Hoooping it up



The Agawam 5th and 6th grade Suburban League Basketball team was in action on Tuesday night at Agawam High School. The young Brownies had a great night on offense and finished with a big defeat of visiting Longmeadow. Included in the game were Noah Jodoin, Chris Stellato, Mason Barcomb, Richard Roy, Jack Wasung, Jordan Stack, Matt Cleavall, Colin Jorgensen, and Hang Lui. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



SPORTS

BOYS BASKETBALL

Brownies come back to stop Colts

By Nate Rosenthal

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

CHICOPEE - It has been an up and down season for the Agawam boys basketball team, but their stirring comeback win over Chicopee Comp was the kind that can get a team going.

This was not your everyday comeback. Agawam started well and led for most of the first quarter. Two quick threes to open the second put them up by 11 and gave them their biggest lead. The Colts started chipping away and closed to within two with 15 seconds left in the half. A 3-pointer at the buzzer got the margin back to five. The Brownies went cold in the third, scoring just two points. The Colts had 18 and by the end of the third, it was Comp with an 11-point lead at 48-37. As dominant as Comp was in the third, so were the Brownies in the fourth. In the first 2:00 they had cut the lead in half and 2:30 later, they had taken a two-point lead. They would not trail or even be tied the rest of the way. In fact, they opened up the lead to win by six at 63-57.

Chicopee Comp scored the first basket on a layup by Steven Velasquez 50 seconds into the game. A minute later Agawam tied it on a Myles Scott jumper and less than a minute after that, Meesha Ohradka put them ahead 4-2. Bruce Carey tied it on the Colts' next possession, but a three by Ohradka made it 7-4 and a Sean Moore putback made it 9-4. Eric Perez hit a three to get it back to two, but Moore and John LeClair answered with baskets. LeClair hit a free throw to finish off a three-point play and with 1:33 left in the first, Ludlow led 14-7. Mason LaBonte and Velasquez sandwiched baskets around one by Joe Mocchio and after one, it was 16-11 for Agawam.

Mocchio and Ohradka opened the second with treys and a 1:30 in, it was 22-11, giving Agawam its biggest lead. Carey, with a three cut it back to eight. The teams traded points



Agawam's Jon Eclair (11) flips a shot towards the basket. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY DAVID HENRY SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

BASKETBALL | page 13

ATHLETIC FIELDS

Spring teams to move for improvement project

Boys volleyball to remain on campus

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM - The Agawam High School Athletics Department has learned they will be off their usual athletic fields for the 2016 spring season.

Athletics Director David Stratton said he received word from the town that with the borrowing finalized and a bid awarded for the high school athletic facility improvement project, they must use other venues to play their varsity games this year.

The goal is for the new multi-purpose artificial turf stadium to be completed in time for the fall season.

The project also includes improvements for almost all of the athletic fields on the Agawam High School campus.

The multi-purpose field is only used for lacrosse in the spring. Stratton confirmed the two lacrosse teams will play at School Street Park this spring.

"The Recreation Department will be making us a field at the park," said Stratton. "But it will only be utilized for games, so we do not ruin the field there by practicing on it every day."

In the past, the rear of the high school and a field at Agawam Junior

SPRING SPORTS | page 13

WRESTLING

Agawam overpowers Ludlow

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW - With a lack of experience in their lineup, the Agawam wrestling team has had to take a different approach to winning meets.

Last Wednesday night, the Brownies had to grind out some wins and made a big impression in the heavier weights as they defeated host Ludlow 45-30.

After struggling early in the meet, the Brownies would win five of the final seven matches to take a lead and then put the meet away against the Lions.

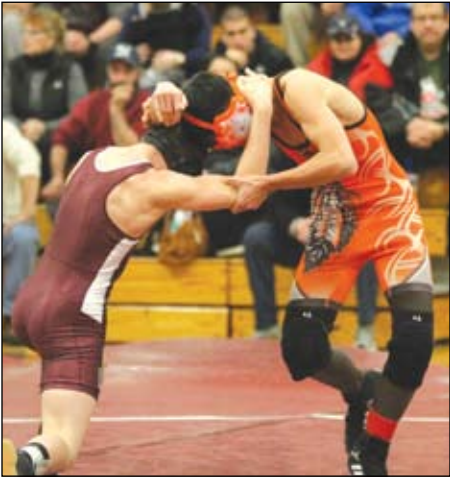
Coach Armando Ramos said many of his wrestlers are still learning their craft.

"It's definitely not the same as it has been in previous years," said Ramos. "But we have a lot of kids who are working really hard and they are doing really well."

Of them is Troy Carroll, who eeked out a 1-0 decision victory over Arda Ibas.

In the second period, Carroll decided to take the down position and scored an escape to take a lead. The remainder of the period was spent with both competitors trying to score a takedown, but neither managed one.

In the third period, Ibas wanted to go for the tie and chose the down position, but Carroll would not allow it. Ibas nearly escaped with about 16 seconds remaining,



Ludlow's Dylan Beddow wrestles Agawam's Kyle Ma at 106 pounds. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

but the referee ruled the two out of bounds and the match was restarted with Carroll able to hold on for the win.

There was an impressive victory at the 145-pound match as Daigan Bishop picked up a pinfall in the second period of his match against Omar Espino.

Bishop would score a takedown on a tackle and went right after the pinfall. He utilized a scissor hold across the chest of

WRESTLING | page 13

HOCKEY

Brownies pushed to tournament brink

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM - Thanks to three more setbacks, the Agawam hockey team is headed for a place they are not familiar with, elimination from tournament contention.

The Brownies lost their seventh straight game, getting defeated on Monday afternoon against Marblehead in independent action 5-2. The Brownies also suffered an extremely tough defeat against West Springfield.

On Monday afternoon, Agawam would play from behind most of the afternoon. Marblehead would score twice in the second and two more in the third to take control of the game.

Domenic Ingham and Anthony Passerini each had goals for the Brownies and goalie Connor McAnanama would make 40 saves as he was constantly under pressure the entire matchup.

Last Thursday night, the Brownies had a tough game against the Terriers, a team that had gone through some numbers issues.

Thanks to a Shane Wilkinson goal in the third period, though, West Springfield prevailed 2-1.

The Terriers would manage to slip a goal in during the first period, taking advantage of a defensive breakdown. Travis McCassey



Anthony Passerini negotiates the neutral zone. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

would score off a rebound to make it 1-0 about 5:00 into the game.

Agawam would go through a very physical game, with constant hits back and forth and several penalties as the game progressed into the second period.

The Brownies would finally break through late into the second period when Passerini scored the tying goal with 3:00 re-

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Sports



Agawam's Joe Moccio (21) takes a look at the basket before releasing a shot.



Agawam's ean Morre (33) shoots a fadeaway jumper. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

BASKETBALL ■ from page 12

over the next 2:00, a three by Andrew LeBel getting the Colts to seven points at 26-19. It was more back and forth over the next 3:00 when Carey followed a LeBel basket with a three and now Comp was down by four at 30-26. With 15 seconds left, Velasquez got Comp to two at 32-30, but a three by Ohradka at the buzzer sent the teams into the break at 35-30.

The third belonged to Comp. Though it took a 1:30, Comp got the first points of the quarter on a free throw by Duane Miller. Velasquez made it a two-point game 30 seconds later. Mike DeStefano scored for Agawam at 5:31, but that basket would be their only score of the third. Perez answered at 5:10 and at 4:25, Kenny Mendez' three pointer gave Chicopee Comp it first lead of the game. The Colts did not score until 2:35 when Carey made it 40-37. Perez had a four-point play as he was fouled while shooting a three. Labonte and Velasquez scored in the final minute and through three, Comp led 48-37.

But Agawam was not done. DeStefano scored at 7:25

of the fourth and Moore got it to 48-41 on the Brownies next possession after a Colts' miss. Labonte scored for Comp, but Moore and Ohradka answered with one each to close it to 50-45 with 6:12 remaining. Perez made one free throw, but Scott scored 12 seconds after that. A Comp miss and a DeStefano trey cut the margin to a point at 51-50 with 4:40 to go. Another Comp miss and a another three, this time by Ohradka at 4:00 and Agawam had a 53-51 lead. Ohradka made two free throws thirty seconds later and now it was a four-point Brownie lead. Perez stopped the bleeding with a layup at 3:14, but Ohradka responded with a three-point play. That was followed by a trey from LeClair and with 2:08 no go, Agawam had a 60-53 lead. Carey scored with 2:02 and Velasquez made two free throws at 1:49, but that was as close as the Colts would come. LeClair made two free throws and Ohradka another for the 63-57 final.

Ohradka led all scorers with 23 points. Moore was next for Agawam with 15.

SPRING SPORTS ■ from page 12

High School were utilized for practices. Stratton said both the boys and girls teams will practice this spring at the junior high.

The varsity baseball team will be moved to Shea Park in the rear of Robinson Park School. Shea Field is utilized by numerous youth teams as well as some summer league teams, including American Legion.

The junior varsity games will be moved to the full-sized diamond at School Street Park, Stratton said.

The varsity baseball field is slated to be moved from its current location along Mill Street to the rear of the high school building. The new field will include an outfield fence and new dugouts.

Though the varsity softball field itself will not be disturbed, the team is still being forced off their diamond.

"The town does not want any teams outside during the construction this spring," said Stratton.

The Recreation Department installed a new backstop and made other improvements to Borgatti Field on River Road. Stratton said all of the varsity home games will be played there this year. The field is used by youth leagues.

The track team already is playing a road schedule, but will finally return home with the installation of a new all-weather track.

The boys volleyball team will be the only team to remain at the high school. Renovations to the locker rooms

are part of the project, but that work will be done over the summer.

Stratton said the town is lucky to have several good facilities for the town to utilize, but he is looking forward to bringing all the teams home when the more than \$9 million project is completed.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications, He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

ROUND UP

Tough third sinks Agawam

Scherpa wins third race

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam girls basketball team has fallen below .500 after suffering a 45-35 loss at West Springfield High School last Friday night.

The Brownies, which have been holding their own this season thanks to a senior-heavy starting lineup, could not manage much offense for the second straight game.

Agawam had defeated West Springfield by a similar score, but the Terriers were ready for their neighbors when West Springfield had the opportunity to play host.

It was a bad start to the second half that really made things difficult for Agawam. The Brownies were even with West Springfield early on only to see their lead disappear and become a deficit by halftime.

West Springfield then limited Agawam to just four points in the third quarter while they extended their lead to nine points.

The Brownies shooting was not having much luck and the Brownies were not able to come back before the end of the game.

Meghan D'Amours and Jess Lingenberg each had 10 points while Bianca Culhane added six points and Christie Mirski was limited to just five points.

Agawam has a tough game Friday at Central, and host Ludlow on Monday at 7 p.m.

Girls Skiing

Jill Scherpa continued her success so far this season by winning the Giant Slalom race last Thursday night at Berkshire East. She was the lone Brownie to place in the top 10, but she took the number one spot with a time of 25.16 seconds to take the race. It was her third win this year.

Agawam finished in fourth place overall with 115.9 points. Westfield would finish in first place with a score of 110.78.

Boys Swimming

The Agawam boys swimming team has started to gain some momentum with two straight victories.

Last Friday afternoon, Agawam hosted Pope Francis (formerly Cathedral and Holyoke Catholic) and won most of the events in a 112-32 victory.

David Wheat had another great afternoon as he won the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:09.12 and captured the 100-yard butterfly in 56.81 seconds.

Victor Shapovalov also had two individual wins, taking the 100-yard backstroke in 58.04 seconds and the 200-yard individual medley in 2:14.98.

The Brownies also captured two relay wins, taking the 200-yard medley and the 400-yard freestyle events.

Agawam would also beat Easthampton 110-54 last week.

The Brownies will try to keep the momentum going when they travel to Chicopee Comp for a 4 p.m. meet Friday.

Girls Swimming

The girls swimming team was able to pick up its second win of the season with a 104-55 win last Friday afternoon. In the victory, Erin Dustin had two individual wins, taking the 200-yard individual medley and the 500-yard freestyle event.

Home game locations for 2016

With the Agawam High School athletic facility improvement project set to begin in the spring, all junior varsity and varsity home games will be moved off campus with the exception of the boys volleyball team.

Listed below is where the junior varsity and varsity games will be played this spring:

Baseball: (varsity) Shea Field at Robinson Park School, 65 Begley St.; (junior varsity) School Street Park.

Softball: Borgatti Field, 257 River Road.

Lacrosse: School Street Park.

Track and Field: all meets will take place on the road.



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Sports

Fishing and hunting swap meet

AGAWAM - The annual Agawam Fishing and Hunting Swap Meet will take place at the Polish American Club, 139 Southwick St.

The show will take place on March 6 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

There will be a \$2 door charge.

This show will have all kinds of fishing and hunting gear. In the past vendors have new, used, antique Fishing and hunting

gear. This includes fresh water, salt water and ice fishing equipment. We also have on hand many antique vendors and sellers to quote that old tackle for free. This show has something for everyone.

If you are interested in selling your gear at this show please call Dave Dussault now at 413-427-0846 to reserve your space. This show has sold out of vending space every year it was held.

Ski, hockey tickets available at Park & Rec

AGAWAM - The Parks & Recreation Winter Brochure is now available online at www.agawam.ma.us.

Discounted Ski Blandford tickets are available for \$25 each and can be used any day that the mountain is open for skiing during the 2015-16 season. Tickets are available at the Parks & Recreation Department, 1000 Suffield St. Call 413-821-0514

for more information.

Discounted Springfield Falcons tickets may be purchased for \$15 each at the Agawam Park & Recreation Department. The vouchers can be exchanged at the Falcons box office at any time for any Falcons home game. Call 413-821-0514 for more information.



Ceasar Alvan wrestles Agawam's Hayden Mendrala in the 132-pound match. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Daigan Bishop tries to turn over Ludlow's Omar Espino in the 145-pound match.

WRESTLING | from page 12

Espino and powered him down to the mat for the second period pin.

At 170 pounds, Teal Savoey picked up a win with a second period pin.

After a successful period with a couple of nearfalls, Savoey scored a trip takedown and eventually got the pin in the second.

Callum Hastings, another newcomer on this year's team, had a pinfall over Xavier Lamas. He was able to score a first-period takedown. He could not turn over Lamas in the first period, but used pure power to succeed in the second period and finished the match with a minute remaining in the second period.

Agawam is now 7-3 in duals meets this season and have home meets scheduled the first two meets.

The Brownies spent last weekend at the Woburn Invitational against some of the best competition in eastern Massachusetts, Maine, and New Hampshire.

Ramos said the experience in Woburn will make many of his new wrestlers better.

"It's a great opportunity for them to see the type of completion they will see in the tournaments next month," said Ramos.

Coming up Wednesday, the Brownies will host neighbor West Springfield at 7 p.m.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.



Agawam's offense makes a move up the ice. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Domenic Ingham battles for the puck with the West Springfield defense.

HOCKEY | from page 12

maining in the period.

The goal came when Passerini and Riley Pearson were both trying to pressure the West Springfield goal. Pearson would circle around the goal with the back and then sent a backhand into the direction of the goal.

The shot would hit the stick of Passerini, and then went off the goalie's stick and into the net to tie the score and give Agawam some renewed energy.

Agawam would then continue the pressure, and eventually tied the shot score 15-15 at the end of the period.

But West Springfield's defense really held up in the third and Wilkinson's goal

was the only goal as Agawam could not come back even with the extra skater near the end of the game.

The Brownies are now 2-9 this season and have a 2-5 Berry Division record.

Agawam's tough schedule will continue with games coming up against East Longmeadow Thursday at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday against Longmeadow at 2 p.m. If the Brownies lose two more games, they will be eliminated from tournament contention.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

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Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, Jan. 22

THE WOODWORKING SHOW today from noon to 6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Young Building on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. \$12 at the door (cash only); 16 and under admitted free with paid adult. Active duty military, police and fire with identification admitted free.

Saturday, Jan. 23

SPRINGFIELD BRIDAL EXPO sponsored by Jenks Productions, Inc., today and tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission, \$10; children 12 and under free. Register online to receive discount coupon.

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD WINTERFEST will include a magician and a puppet theater. Magic AI will be in the Majestic Theater, 131 Elm St., at 11 a.m. The Gerwick Puppet Theater will bring Aesop's Fables to life at 2 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Brigham Hall, 214 Elm St. For more information on these free events, call "It's West Springfield" at 413-279-4567 or email itswestspringfield@gmail.com.

Monday, Jan. 25

STAFF FROM FEEDING HILLS WELLNESS will offer free 10-minute sessions of either Reiki or therapeutic massage from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. Registration, which begins Jan. 4, is recommended, as time slots are limited, and is by phone only at 413-789-1550, ext. 4.

Friday, Jan. 29

FIRST PERSON PRESENTATION, "Letters Home During the Civil War," from 7 to 8 p.m. at Storowton Village Museum Meetinghouse on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission \$5; children under 6 free.

Saturday, Jan. 30

RAILROAD HOBBY SHOW today from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Better Living Center, Young Building, Stroh Building and Mallary Complex on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission \$14; children 15 and under free when accompanied by an adult. Special online two-

ticket pricing.

Tuesday, Feb. 2

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST TUESDAY MORNING MUSIC CONCERT, 361 Sumner Ave., Springfield, will feature the Devine-Nix Duo at 10:30 a.m. Reception to follow. For more information, call Yolanda Martin at 413-736-0766 or email firgo9654@aol.com.

Saturday, Feb. 6

GREAT BARRINGTON KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW, today and Sunday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Free admission.

Wednesday, Feb. 10

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam, offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

Friday, Feb. 12

SPRINGFIELD RV, CAMPING AND OUTDOOR SHOW, today through Monday, in the Better Living Center, Young Building and Mallary Complex on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. \$11 general admission (\$9 with online coupon); children 12 and under free; seniors, disabled American veterans and military, \$7.

DAN JONES, EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES column "Modern Love," will share his stories and read from his books at 10:10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. at Scibelli Hall at STCC, One Armory Square, Springfield, as part of its free Ovations series. For more information, call 413-755-4233 or email pcodonoghue@stcc.edu.

Sunday, Feb. 14

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St., West Springfield. A special coin topic will be presented and discussed. Refreshments available. Guests welcome. For more information, call Peter Setian at 413-596-9871.

Wednesday, Feb. 17

THE AGAWAM SAINT PATRICK COMMITTEE will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the lower level classroom at St. John's Parish Center, 833 Main St., Agawam. New members are welcome.

Friday, Feb. 19

SPRINGFIELD SPORTSMEN'S SHOW, today through Sunday, in the Better Living Center and Stroh Building on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. General admission, \$13; children 6 to 12, \$5; under 6, free.

Saturday, Feb. 20

KIDS FUN FAIR / TRAVELING ZOO, today and Sunday, in Mallary East on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. General admission, \$15; children 12 and under free with coupon.

morial Ave., West Springfield. General admission, \$15; children 12 and under free with coupon.

FIRST COMPANY GOVENOR'S FOOT ATHLETIC ASSOC. Dog show and Obedience Trials, today and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., in the Young Building on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Free admission.

Friday, Feb. 26

FRANK MARATTA'S AUTO AND RACE-A-RAMA SHOW today through Sunday in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. General admission, \$15; children 8 to 12, \$7.50; free for children 7 and under.

ONGOING

GRANDPARENT'S PLAYGROUP Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. This free infant and toddler playgroup features music and movement, fostering children's interactions and sharing skills. Open to all grandparents and their grandchildren. Follows school schedule.

MOM 2 MOM takes place the second Tuesday of every month October through June, 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St. A roundtable discussion hosted by a local "veteran" mom, this is a great way to have further conversation on recent café themes and parent education events, celebrate parenting and receive encouragement for the trials.

THE AGAWAM ST. PATRICK COMMITTEE meets the third Wednesday of each month, September through June, at 6:30 p.m. at St. John the Evangelist Rectory conference room, 833 Main St., Agawam. For information on how to join, call Vera Conway at 413-786-3247

Agawam Senior Center

Lunch Menu

- Monday, Jan. 25:** Chicken gratin, rice pilaf, buttered corn, pears.
Tuesday, Jan. 26: Sausage with peppers and onions, pasta and sauce, pudding.
Wednesday, Jan. 27: Split pea soup, grilled chicken Caesar salad, breadstick, mixed fruit.
Thursday, Jan. 28: Roast loin of pork, roasted potatoes and carrots, applesauce.
Friday, Jan. 29: Cream of broccoli soup, egg salad on a roll, tomato cucumber salad, baked good.

Calendar of Events

- Monday, Jan. 25:** 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., line dancing; 10 a.m. Health New England seminar; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., bingo; 5:30 p.m., Zumba.

or email Rosemary Sandlin at rosemarysandlin@gmail.com

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. No registration needed.

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 459 Mill St., Agawam, offers "Crochet Club" every other Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This club is open to all needle-workers, including crocheters, knitters, quilters, and embroiderers. For more information, call 413-786-7991.

A BREAST CANCER AND MASTECTOMY SUPPORT GROUP meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

AN ALL CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish Center, 1061 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

A BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP meets the second Wednesday of each month at Heritage Woods Assisted Facility, 462 Main St., Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR CAMPER may be worth more as a donation than a trade-in. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind at 888-613-2777 for more information. Towing is free. All donations are tax deductible.

Church Directory

AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

745 Main St., Agawam
786-7111
Pastor: Rev. Greg E. Dawson
office@AgawamCong.com
www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10 a.m.
Communion on the first Sunday of the month
Church school is in session and fellowship coffee hour follows the service.
"A place to call home ~ A people to call family"

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

459 Mill St., Feeding Hills
413-786-4174
Pastor: Ken Blanchard
email_agawamumc@gmail.com
www.agawamworship.org

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday 10 a.m.
Holy Communion served 1st and 3rd Sundays.
Coffee hour after worship; Bible Study after fellowship.
Prepare Meal for Samaritan Inn Homeless Shelter 2nd Saturdays 2-5 p.m.
Offsite Worship:
Heritage East, 1st Mondays, 11 a.m.
Heritage North, 1st Tuesdays, 11 a.m.
Heritage Woods, 1st Mondays, 11 a.m.
Country Estates, 2nd and 5th Thursdays, 11 a.m.

BETHANY ASSEMBLY OF GOD

580 Main St., Agawam
(413) 789-2930
www.bethany-ag.org
Senior Pastor: Rev. Richard E. Adams

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday 9am & 10:45am
Christian Education offered during both services.
Nightlife Contemporary Service: Sunday 6 p.m.
Wednesday Family Night: 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF REDEMPTION

50 Maple St., Agawam
(413) 304-2313
churchor.org

WORSHIP SERVICES
Summer Schedule
Sunday Services, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Sunday school for children and nursery for younger children

FAITH BIBLE CHURCH

370 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam
(413) 786-1681
jesussaves.7@comcast.net
Church Website: www.faithbible-church.org
Pastor: Rick Donofrio

SERVICES
Sunday School for all ages 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Prayer
Meeting and Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC

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P.O. Box 264
(413) 786-5061
fhccucc@comcast.net
Pastor: The Rev. Robert C. Donaldson

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Church School 10:15 a.m.
Worship Service 10 a.m.
Infant and child care provided.
Handicap accessible.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF AGAWAM

760 Main St., Agawam
churchedie@comcast.net
www.firstbaptistagawam.org
Pastor: Rev. George Thomson

SUNDAY SERVICES
Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School (grades K - 5) following Children's Message until 10:45
Youth Group meets at 11 a.m.
Coffee & Conversation following worship service

HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

152 South Westfield St.
Feeding Hills
789-2026

SUNDAY SERVICES
Men's & Women's Bible Study Groups and Children's Sunday School Worship Service at 10 a.m. Children's Church for age 3 to high school takes place after the service.
Nursery available for younger children. A time for fellowship after the service.

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

522 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
413-821-0937
Senior Elders Bob and Barbara Olmstead
Email: office@lighthousema.com
Web: www.lighthousema.com

WORSHIP SERVICE
Saturday evening Celebration at 6 to 8 PM

Saturday evening Prayer from 5 – 5:45 PM
1-hour classes for children ages 3 to 12 during service
Nursery available for younger children
SMALL GROUP MEETINGS in homes during the week
(call or see website for more information)

MARANATHA BAPTIST CHURCH

522 Springfield St., Feeding Hills
Feeding Hills, MA
478-9484
David L. Short, Pastor

Sunday Family Bible Study Hour, 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Service, 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Service, 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer, 7 p.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH

1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills
(413) 786-8200
www.SacredHeartFeedingHills.org
Fr. Steven Amo

WEEKLY SERVICES
Lord's Day Masses: Saturday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 7:15 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m.
Confessions: Saturdays, 3:15 p.m.
Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.
Special Devotions: Perpetual Novena to the Sacred Heart following the Friday 9 a.m. Mass

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Harvey Hill
699 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
(413) 786-6133
saintdavidsc@comcast.net

www.stdavidsagawam.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
Sunday 8 a.m. Rite I and Holy Eucharist
10 a.m. Rite II and Holy Eucharist
Sunday school and Nursery during 10 a.m. service
Coffee hour following the 10 a.m. service
Handicap Accessible

OFFSITE WORSHIP
Church without Walls, 2nd Sunday of the month at 12 p.m. at Parish Pantry, West Springfield
Holy Eucharist and distribution of bag lunches

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

823 Main St., Agawam
786-8105
info@stjohnnevangelistchurch.org
www.stjohnagawam.org

SCHEDULE OF MASSES
Saturdays: 5 p.m. Sundays: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Reconciliation: Fridays, 7:15 to 8 a.m., Saturdays, 4 to 4:45 p.m.
Weekdays: Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri., 8 a.m.
Thursday: Communion Service



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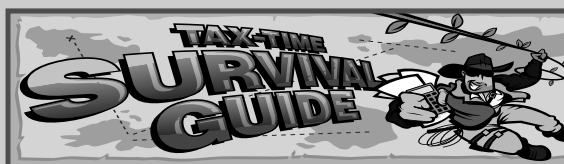
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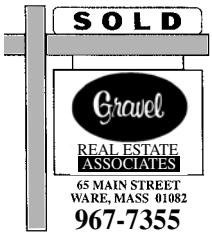
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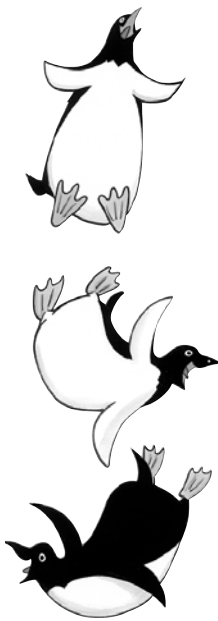
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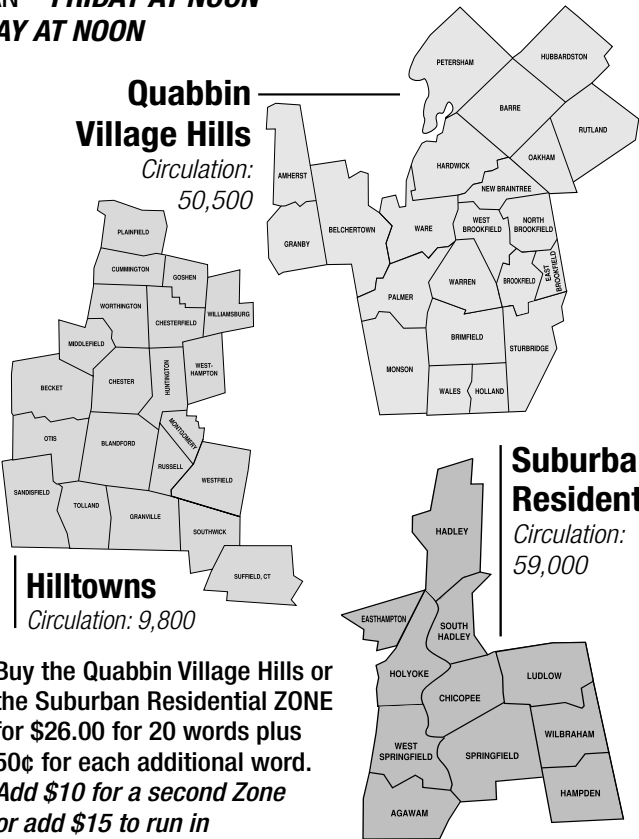


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RECOGNITION



Tim Coughlen



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Coughlen, Kapinos top agents

WEST SPRINGFIELD — Ted Cas-sell, president of Park Square Realty and manager of the company’s West Springfield office, announced that Tim Coughlen and Diane Kapinos, of Feed-ing Hills, were among the office’s top producing agents for the fourth quarter of 2015. Park Square Realty is a locally owned company with 52 agents and locations in West Springfield and West-field. For more information, visit www.parksquarerealty.com.

HIRING

Dr. Hook joins chiropractic practice

Dr. Tami Nelson of Hamp-nounced that Dr. Kristen Hook new associate. Hook graduated York Chiropractic College in upstate New York but has resided the past 15 years.

She specializes in low back and numbness/tingling. She also injuries.

The office is at 546 Springfield available for appointments and 786-4820.



Dr. Kristen Hook

den County Chiropractic an-has joined the practice as a summa cum laude from New 2000. She is originally from in Western Massachusetts for

pain, neck pain, headaches treats auto- and work-related

St., Feeding Hills. Hook is now can be reached by calling 413-

RECOGNITION

Performer’s bank commercial in top 20

NORTHAMPTON — The Florence Bank television commercial starring 10 lo-cal musicians, including Feeding Hills resident Tony Staf, was recently named one of the top 20 bank vid-eos of 2015.

The ad, produced by Sean Tracey Associates, was named to the Bank Innova-tion list along with offer-ings from such high-profile institutions as Capital One, PayPal, Wells Fargo, Citi-group, American Express, JP Morgan Chase, Lloyds Bank, Ally Financial, Bank of Scotland, Bank of Ireland and Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

According to Sean Trac-ey, principal of Sean Tracey Associates, the 30-second video was a follow up to a commercial produced two years ago where local talent danced to the beat of Florence Bank’s theme music, “Always.” That year, professional singers were used on the mu-sic tracks.



Feeding Hills resident Tony Staf, in a Florence Bank publicity pho-to from August. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Other performers in the Florence com-mercial include residents of Goshen, Greenfield, Hadley, Leeds, Longmeadow, Northampton and Shelburne. The ad can be viewed online at www.alwaysflorence.com.

BUSINESS

Heritage Woods opens memory care neighborhood

Heritage Woods Senior Living has an-nounced the opening of its new 18-unit memory care neighborhood, “The Birches.” Following the Genesis Homestead Pro-gram, The Birches is dedicated to the care of persons with Alzheimer’s disease and re-lated memory impairments in a secure and supportive environment.

For more information or to schedule a tour, call 413-789-8332. Heritage Woods is at 462 Main St., Agawam.

BUSINESS



The new Express Care on North Westfield Street, part of a planned three-store plaza, is now open. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

Noble opens Express Care in Feeding Hills

Noble Medical Group opened a new Primary Care and Express Care facility at 24 N. Westfield St. in Feeding Hills on Jan. 18. The Feeding Hills facility will join the established Westfield location, which opened in 2013. Hours for Noble Express Care in Feeding Hills will be Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and weekends from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The phone number is 413-831-7801.

Conditions that can typically be

treated at Noble Express Care include cold and flu, bumps and bruises, ac-cidents and falls, sore throat or cough, headaches, ear infections, bleeding/cuts, minor trauma, rashes, eye prob-lems, sports physicals, pre-employment physicals, high fever, mild to moderate asthmatic attacks, urinary tract infec-tions, sprains and broken bones and back problems.

For more information, visitwww.nobleexpresscare.com.

ELECTED

Chase to lead Gray House board

SPRINGFIELD — The Gray House elected three new offi-cers to its board of directors for a three-year term at the January meeting: David A. Chase, presi-dent; Susan A. Mastroianni, vice president; and Rick E. Marcil, clerk. Candace A. Pereira re-mains as treasurer.

Chase, an Agawam resident, has over 25 years of banking experience. He is vice president of member business services at Freedom Credit Union. Chase also serves on the board of West of the River Cham-



David Chase

ber of Commerce, is a member of the Agawam Planning Board and is a member of the Rotary Club of Springfield.

The Gray House is a small neighborhood human service agency at 22 Sheldon St. in the North End of Springfield. Its mission is to help their neigh-bors facing hardships to meet their immediate and transitional needs by providing food, cloth-ing, and educational services in a safe, positive environment.

PROMOTION

Fontaine named VP at bank

HOLYOKE — Russell D. Fon-taine has been promoted to first vice president, retail sales, at PeoplesBank. Fontaine, who has more than a decade of financial experience, first joined the bank in 2009 and previously served as vice president sales and service manager.

A resident of Agawam, he holds a bachelor of science in



Russell D. Fontaine

business management from Westfield State University and a certificate from the Wharton School of Business Leadership at the ABA Stonier Graduate School of Banking. He serves on the board of the Greater Spring-field Habitat for Humanity.

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